

QTM300CA USER'S GUIDE

Cloning Adapter for the QT3xx family of QProx™ ICs

Description

The QTM300CA is a cloning adapter designed to interface between any QT3xx 8-pin sensor IC (QT300, QT310, QT320) and a PC or other host device.

This adapter permits the designer to upload settings from a PC into the target chip or to read the settings inside a chip. The supplied cable allows the board to plug directly into both the E3A and E3B eval boards.



For production use, the target PCB can have a similar connector which allows the QTM300CA to upload settings on a mass basis. The cloning process takes under 1 second to complete.

The QTM300CA's eeprom memory permits the board to be used as a stand-alone cloning adapter once it is programmed from a PC with the desired setups. An onboard socket also allows the user to program QT3xx parts individually. The QTM300CA can also be used to read back and verify the settings in QT3xx parts.

For the QT300 continuous IC, this adapter also provides the additional functionality of interfacing to that device's SPI port to download signal data, which can then be observed directly on the PC in real time using QT3View software.

QT3View PC software is included, and updates can be downloaded from Quantum's web site.

You should find the following materials included with your QTM300CA:

Materials Provided

- ◆ 1x QTM300CA board
- ◆ 1x RS232 DB-9 serial extension cable
- ◆ 1x RC02 (IDC to IDC) clone cable
RC01 (IDC to 7 way, for older E3B boards) is available on request.
- ◆ 1x 9V battery
- ◆ 1x QT3View user guide
- ◆ 1x CD Rom with QT3View software (or, download latest from **www.qprox.com**)

You will also need: A PC running any recent version of Windows (98, 98SE, NT4, 2000, XP) upwards, with a free serial port (Com 1 or Com 2), and if desired a bench power supply to replace the battery (9 - 15V DC) for long term use.

Overview

The QTM300CA can operate in two basic modes:

- PC-driven mode
- Stand-alone mode

In **PC-driven mode**, you can -

- Load Setup information into it for all three part types for use in stand-alone mode, from a PC running QT3View.
- Communicate directly from the PC to the QT3xx part without disturbing the contents of the QTM300CA.
- Read back the Setups of any QT3xx device to your PC.
- View actual signal data on-screen in real time (QT300 only).
- Store many Setups files to disk, and program your devices from them.

In **Stand-alone mode**, you can -

- Auto-select which device (QT300 or other) will be cloned.
- Load Setups information stored in the QTM300CA to a QT3xx device, for example in a production setting.

Which mode? PC mode is entered automatically when a PC running QT3View software is connected to the QTM300CA. If a PC is not connected or running QT3View, the board defaults to Stand-alone mode.

Use PC mode for development, and Stand-alone mode for production.

Quick Start

To begin using the board right away

1. Connect the QTM300CA to a PC using the serial cable (included). Make sure the serial port is not being used by any other application or driver.
2. Connect the QTM300CA to the target board's 10-pin IDC cloning header; **the stripe of the cable connects to the pin marked with a white square.**
3. Run QT3View on the PC.
4. Power up the target board and the QTM300CA.

QT3View will communicate with the QTM300CA and determine the specific QT3xx variant installed on the target board. The appropriate tab for the detected part will appear on top.

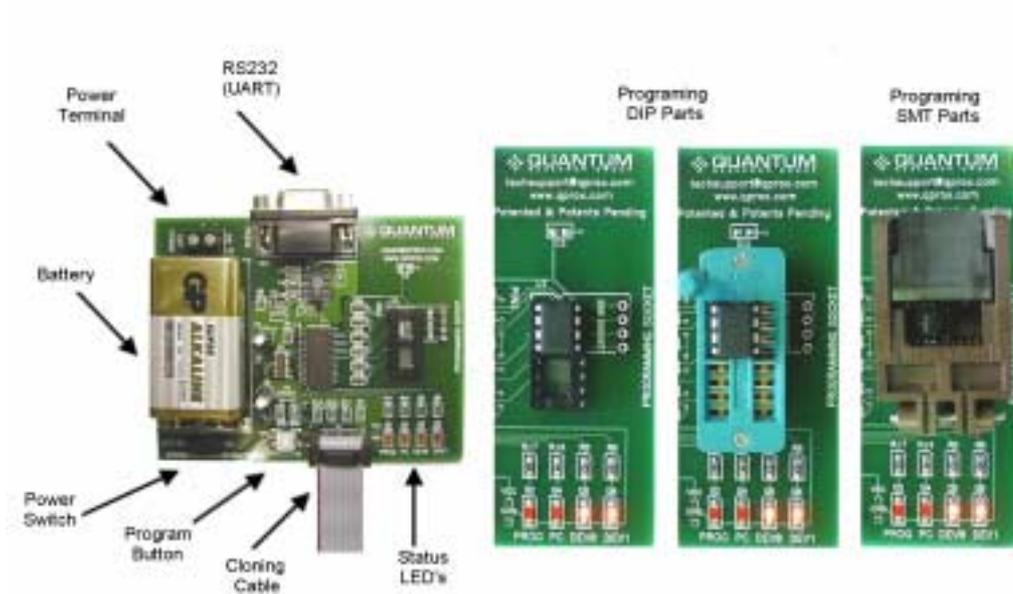
To show the current Setups in the chip, click the [**Sensor | Download from Chip**] button (see page 5); the Setups on the tab will be updated with what is in the chip.

It is now possible to change the Setups from the PC using the selector boxes. The new Setups become effective as soon as you make the change and will operate the next time you power up the chip in its normal operating mode.

When you are done making changes, unplug the cloning cable and reset the QT3xx chip to cause it to recalibrate and run properly.

Note: The cloning adapter is tolerant of power sequencing; it does not matter whether the cloning adapter or target is powered up or switched off first.

Figure 1 - Board Layout



Board Details

Power Switch Selects between the onboard battery (right) or an external power source (left).

Power Connector For external power, between +8 to +20 Volts DC. Power should be free from switching noise and short-term fluctuations for best performance. A 9V battery is fine for short term use, but make sure the battery does not drain to below 8V or erroneous operation can occur.

RS232 Connector Provides communications between the QTM300CA and the PC. It allows the user to upload or download setups from the cloning adapter to the target QT3xx. The cable to the PC should be an 'extension' type (wired 1:1), included.

Cloning Ribbon Cable Connects to the target board and can be connected whether or not the target is powered. The cable has a stripe on one side; care should be taken not to reverse this cable. This stripe aligns with pin 1 (white square) of the E3A or E3B board header.

IC Programming Socket The QTM300CA can be used to program QT3xx chips onboard. The board can accommodate either a ZIF socket or a SMT socket (when used with appropriate adapters, not included - see Figure 1 above and [ZIF Info](#), Page 11).

In Stand-alone mode, once the chip to be programmed is inserted, the QTM300CA will detect the chip part number and display it on the 'DEV0 and DEV1' LEDs (see below).

Program Button If a QT3xx chip has been auto-detected, this button will clone Setups data from the QTM300CA to the chip. The 'PROG' LED (see next section) indicates the programming result. The QTM300CA can store three sources of data, one for each part type. The correct source will be used to program the detected part.

Status LEDs

PC Indicates if QT3View software is communicating with the QTM300CA.
This LED will turn off five seconds after communications have stopped.

DEV0, DEV1 Displays the chip type connected via the ribbon cable or in the onboard socket:

DEV1	DEV0	Device
-	-	None
-	On	QT300
On	-	QT310
On	On	QT320

PROG Indicates the programming status of the target chip in Stand-alone mode.

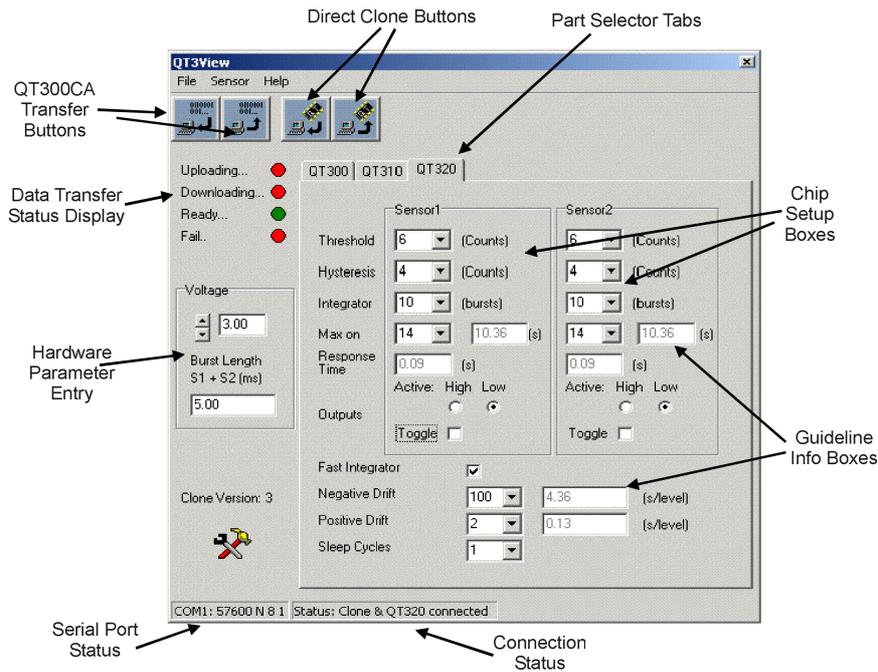
The PROG LED will light during the cloning process in Stand-alone mode.
Afterwards the LED will flash on/off 3 times to indicate completion:

Fast flashing: (0.1s between flashes) the clone process was a success.

Slow flashing: (1s between flashes) the clone process failed.

If the QTM300CA is not in communication with QT3View software, the PROG LED will flash on and off.

Figure 2 - QT3View Screen



QT3View Operation

Part Selector Tabs Allows you to view and communicate with the right part. Any serial data transfer will involve only the active tab. The software will auto-recognize the type of chip connected to the QTM300CA and choose the right tab for you.

If no chip is installed, the tab can be manually selected to allow data transfers with the QTM300CA's onboard e²prom.

File | Open Restores a config file saved by (File | Save). All three part selector configurations (tabs) will be restored by this action.

File | Save Saves all three part selector configurations to disk in a single file, to a file name of your choice.

Sensor | CommPort Selects the desired PC serial port. Com1 is selected by default when the software is first started, if it is available.

Sensor | Upload to Adapter  Sends the Setups of the open tab to the QTM300CA's onboard e²prom for use in later cloning. Repeat this step with each selector tab opened in turn, to upload Setups for multiple part types.

Sensor | Download from Adapter  Reads the Setups from the e²prom of the QTM300CA into the currently open selector tab. Only the data for the open tab is read. Repeat this step with each tab open in turn to read in all the configurations stored in the QTM300CA.

Sensor | Upload to Chip  Sends the Setups from the currently open selector tab directly to the e²prom of a QT3xx chip. Data stored in the QTM300CA is **not** affected by this operation. The open tab must coincide with the connected chip type.

Sensor | Download from Chip  Reads the Setups directly from the e²prom of a connected QT3xx chip into the corresponding selector tab. Data stored in the QTM300CA is **not** affected by this operation.

Setup and Guideline Boxes These boxes show and modify the available Setups for the chosen chip.

Timing related values have no meaningful unit of measure unless interpreted together with the device supply voltage and Sleep Cycles. To aid in understanding the effects of these Setups, 'Guideline' boxes are used next to timing related Setups to give an estimate of the result in seconds.

Guideline boxes cannot be modified, they only exist to inform you of the effects of the timing Setups. Guideline numbers will change if Sleep Cycles, Burst Length, or Voltage are changed, because QT3xx device timings vary with these things.

The QTM300CA and QT3View cannot directly measure the effects of Setup changes or supply voltage changes. The numbers presented are reasonable estimates only.

Hardware Parameter Entry Allows you to enter the expected chip supply voltage and the burst length (total of both channels together in the case of the QT320) in order to allow Guideline boxes to show reasonably accurate timing values. The QTM300CA cannot measure these parameters.

To measure the burst length, use an oscilloscope with a 750K series resistor on the probe tip to limit loading, and measure on either SNS pin of the QT chip from the start of the first pulse to the end of the last.

QT320: Add together the burst length times of both channels when entering the number for this chip.

Status Bar Display The status bar at the bottom shows the serial port and connection status. Possibilities are:

- Serial Port Status:**
- Off Line
 - COM1: 57600 N 8 1
 - COM2: 57600 N 8 1
- Connection Status:**
- Status: Clone connected
 - Status: Clone & QT300 connected
 - Status: Clone & QT310 connected
 - Status: Clone & QT320 connected
 - Status: No Clone

Cloning Directly to a Chip

You can read and clone back information to a QT3xx chip directly from your PC without involving the onboard stand-alone memory of the QTM300CA. Here's how....

Step 1

Hook everything up:

- Connect the serial cable from the PC to the QTM300CA.
- Connect the QTM300CA's cloning cable to the target PCB, or plug a QT3xx into the onboard socket.
- Power up the QTM300CA and, if necessary, the target PCB.

Step 2

Start QT3View on the PC:

- The PC LED should light up on the QTM300CA.
- DEV0 and DEV1 LEDs will indicate the auto-detected chip type (see page 4).
- QT3View will select the proper part tab on the screen.

Step 3

Load / Modify your Setups:

- Download the Setups from the chip to your screen using the '**Download from Chip**' button (see right) or,
- Load in a Setups file from disk
(*this will overwrite all three configuration tabs*).
- Modify the Setups parameters as desired.
- Enter the correct target operating supply voltage (see page 6) if necessary.
- Enter the total burst length (see page 6) if necessary.
- Save the Setups to disk if desired (*saves all three tabs into one file*).



Step 4

Clone the Setups to the chip:

- Upload Setups to the chip from the current tab using the '**Upload to Chip**' button (see right).
- QT3View will display the success or failure of the clone process in the "Data Transfer Status Display" at the left of the screen (the PROG LED does not work in this mode).
- Remove the chip and install another and repeat this Step 4,
-or-
- Remove the clone cable and connect to another target PCB and repeat this Step 4.



Refer to the device data sheet and the QT3View help file for more information on Setup issues.

Storing Setups into the QTM300CA

You can save Setup information from the PC to the onboard eeprom of the QTM300CA for use in cloning of parts on a stand-alone basis. You can also read back these Setups to your PC at any time to verify them. The QTM300CA can independently store three Setup configurations, one for each part type. Here's how.....

Step 1

Hook everything up:

- Connect the serial cable from the PC to the QTM300CA.
- Power up the QTM300CA.
- A target chip or board can be connected but in this process it will not be affected.

Step 2

Start QT3View on the PC:

- The PC LED should light up on the QTM300CA.
- DEV0 and DEV1 LEDs will flash to indicate 'no part found' if no part is connected.

Step 3

Load / Modify the Setups:

- Select the device tab in QT3View that you wish to work on.
- Load in a Setup file from disk if desired, or,
- Load in the Setups stored in the QTM300CA using the '**Download from Adapter**' button into the current tab. Note, the other tabs will not be affected.
- Enter the target operating voltage and burst length (*see page 6*) if desired.
- Change the Setups in the current part tab using the dialog boxes, if desired.
- Select a different device tab if you wish to work on another part type, and repeat this Step 3.



Step 4

Transfer the data to the QTM300CA's internal eeprom:

- Select the device tab which you want to upload to the QTM300CA.
- Upload the Setup contents from this tab to the QTM300CA using the '**Upload to Adapter**' button.
- QT3View will display the success or failure of the copy process in the "Data Transfer Status Display" at the left of the screen.
- Repeat Step 4 with other tabs if desired to copy over other part type Setups.



Cloning Setups from the QTM300CA to a Chip

You can clone Setup information from the QTM300CA to a chip either on a target PCB or inserted into the onboard socket, without the need for a PC. The QTM300CA stores the Setup information in its onboard eeprom for use in cloning. The three part types, QT300, QT310, and QT320 each have their own 'page' of Setups in the QTM300CA. Here's how.....

Step 1

Hook everything up:

- Connect the QTM300CA's cloning cable to the target PCB, or insert a QT3xx chip into the onboard socket.
- Power up the QTM300CA and, if necessary, the target PCB.
- The DEV LEDs should indicate the correct part (auto-detected); see page 4.

Step 2

Clone the Setups to the Chip:

- Push the PROG button on the board.
- The PROG LED will light to indicate programming status.
- The PROG LED will flash to indicate the programming result; see page 4.

Clone Connector Design Rules

Care must be taken when designing an onboard cloning connector. The following are a few requirements needed for a successful cloning connector design.

QT320/QT310 Place the connector as close as possible to the chip. Placing the cloning connector far from the part will increase sensor load capacitance C_x and decrease sensitivity, as some of the cloning lines are also sense lines. Long distances on cloning lines can also make the clone process more susceptible to communication errors from ringing and interference, and create an RF antenna for external fields.

QT310 If the Synchronization input is used, a 10K resistor should be used to avoid problems with the cloning process; see Figure 4 below.

Figure 3 - QT300 Clone Connections

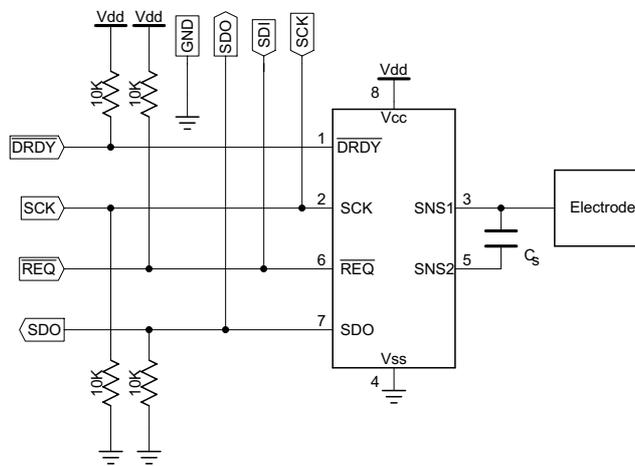


Figure 4 - QT310 Clone Connections

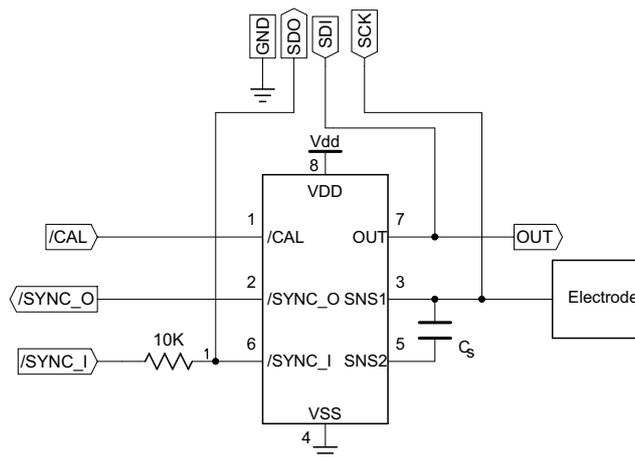
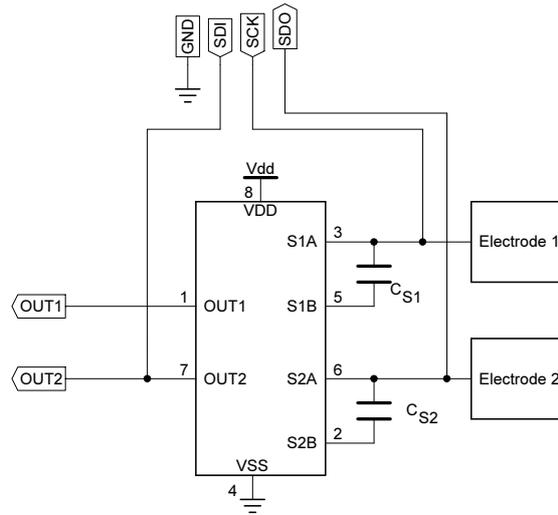


Figure 5 - QT320 Clone Connections





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Corporate Headquarters

1 Mitchell Point
Ensign Way, Hamble SO31 4RF
Great Britain

Tel: +44 (0)23 8056 5600 Fax: +44 (0)23 8045 3939

admin@qprox.com

www.qprox.com

North America

651 Holiday Drive Bldg. 5 / 300
Pittsburgh, PA 15220 USA

Tel: 412-391-7367 Fax: 412-291-1015

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